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REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Algeria, Djibouti, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mauritania, Morocco, Sudan, Tunisia and Yemen: draft resolution

Assistance to the Palestinian people

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 47/170 of 22 December 1993,

Aware of the negative impact the Israeli policies have had on the economic and social activities of the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem,

Gravely concerned about the destruction of a large part of the occupied Palestinian territory's economic and social infrastructure and the deterioration in the living conditions of the Palestinian people,

Aware that development cannot be attained under occupation,

Welcoming the signing of the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements, including its Annexes and Agreed Minutes between the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Government of Israel in Washington, D.C., on 13 September 1993, 1/

Noting, in the light of the recent developments, the great economic and social challenges facing the Palestinian people and their leadership,

Conscious of the urgent necessity for, and responsibility of, the international community to provide all kinds of assistance to the Palestinian people in accordance with Palestinian priorities,

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1/ A/48/486-S/26560, annex.

Noting the convening of the United Nations Seminar on Assistance to the Palestinian People, held at the headquarters of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization from 26 to 29 April 1993,

Stressing the need for the full engagement of the United Nations in the process of building the Palestinian National Authority and in providing broad assistance to the Palestinian people in all needed fields,

Welcoming the convening of the Conference to Support Middle East Peace, held in Washington, D.C., on 1 October 1993 and the establishment of the high-level United Nations task force to support the economic and social development of the Palestinian people,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General, 2/

1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General;

2. Expresses its appreciation to the Secretary-General for his rapid response and efforts regarding assistance to the Palestinian people;

3. Expresses its appreciation to the Member States, United Nations bodies and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations that have provided and continue to provide assistance to the Palestinian people;

4. Welcomes the results of the Conference to Support Middle East Peace, convened in Washington, D.C., on 1 October 1993;

5. Urges Member States, international financial institutions of the United Nations system, international intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and regional and interregional organizations to extend, as rapidly and as generously as possible, economic and social assistance to the Palestinian people in order to assist in the development of the Palestinian territory, and to do so in close cooperation with the Palestine Liberation Organization and through official Palestinian institutions;

6. Encourages an active and broad United Nations role in assisting in the implementation of the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements, including its Annexes and Agreed Minutes;

7. Calls upon all organizations and agencies of the United Nations system to immediately start to establish a direct and official presence in the Palestinian territory and to intensify their assistance in response to the urgent needs of the Palestinian people, and calls upon them for greater and more effective coordination through an appropriate mechanism under the auspices of the Secretary-General;

8. Calls for the granting of trade concessions and concrete preferential measures for Palestinian exports on the basis of Palestinian certificates of origin;

2/ A/48/183-E/1993/74 and Add.1.

9. Suggests that the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People consider in its programme for 1993-1994 the convening of a seminar on Palestinian needs in the light of the new developments;

10. Requests the Secretary-General, in close cooperation with the Palestine Liberation Organization, to convene, as soon as possible, a meeting of United Nations system organizations and agencies, to ensure the coordinated work of the United Nations system for adequate response to the needs of the Palestinian people and to mobilize financial, technical, economic and other assistance;

11. Requests the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly, at its forty-ninth session, through the Economic and Social Council, on the implementation of the present resolution, containing:

(a) An assessment of the assistance actually received by the Palestinian people;

(b) An assessment of the needs still unmet and specific proposals for responding effectively to them;

12. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-ninth session an item entitled "Assistance to the Palestinian people".